

TIMELINEZ

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THE JOINT NEWSLETTER OF THE THREE TIMEX-SINCLAIR
USER GROUPS IN THE SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA
** EBZUG PUG SVSTUG **

DISC FEVER?!

During the past few months, more and more people have expressed interest in obtaining disc drives for their T/S 2068 computers. With the introduction of the Timex-Portugal system, the marketing of the disc operating system offered by Ramex and the shipment of units from AERCO, there are suddenly several serious contenders for the shopper's dollar.

Some Bay Area T/S Users Group members have gotten together to pool information about the various systems and to investigate the possibility of obtaining group discounts from vendors. Letters requesting technical and price/delivery information have been sent to:

- AERCO
- Ramex
- English Micro Connection
- Zebra Systems
- John Olier Company
- Research Service Labs

To date the only substantial response has been submitted by AERCO. Jerry Chamkis, AERCO's President, was kind enough to send along several copies of the owner's manual/operating instructions. To obtain a copy for review, let me know. He has also offered significant discounts for the Users Group in general, with even greater savings available for single orders of four (4) or more units. Significant new features for the AERCO DOS are in the works, including CP/M, RAM Disc, Spectrum compatability, and HARD DISC!

The lack of response from the others is not necessarily to be taken as lack of interest because some of these letters have been sent quite recently.

If you are interested in learning more about the various disc operating systems available now or in the near future and in possibly taking advantage of the group discounts, please drop me a line with your name and address. You'll be sent the latest information as it's received.

Also, if you have any questions on these systems, the information may be in hand. If not, it can be included in a letter from our group to the vendor. A single letter

from a group of potential customers will have more impact and will also be appreciated more than twenty letters all asking the same questions.

As more data becomes available, a guide comparing the systems will be made and distributed. Perhaps within the next few months we can join the rest of the world in using disc storage.

C.P. Morrissey (415) 952-5068
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Bldg 21, Apt 22
San Bruno, CA 94066

C O N T E N T S

<u>DISC FEVER?!</u>	151
<u>BANTA'S SCREEN-CODE</u>	152
<u>PUG NEWS</u>	152
<u>SVSTUG NEWS</u>	153
<u>NEWSLETTER EXCHANGE</u>	155
<u>COMPUTER CALENDAR</u>	156
<u>SINCLAIR PORTABLE</u>	157
<u>TASWORD FOR A&J</u>	158

THIS SENTENCE HAS EXACTLY
THREE ERORS.

EBZUG NEWS

by Rick Link

(Editors Note: Rick's column on Eastbay activities will begin in next month's issue.)

From GUTS Newsletter,
Sacramento, California

BANTA SOFTWARE ANNOUNCES
SCREEN-CODE

SCREEN-CODE is a low cost Z80 assembler for the TIMEX 2068 computer. It is designed for the user who wants to experiment with machine code without making a big investment. It is a full assembler which will accept all Z80 instructions, has its own editor, and will load the assembled program into memory and run it.

This program may be copied by any one who wishes to use it. If you use it and find it useful the author would like a donation: \$10 is suggested but any amount will be accepted. If you make a donation your name goes on a list to receive updates as they become available.

Initially, BANTA SOFTWARE will sell copies for the nominal price of \$3.00 but the ultimate goal is to have the distribution done by the users.

If you are not familiar with the term 'assembler', the purpose of an assembler program is to take instructions which are abbrevi-

PUG NEWS

by George Mockridge

At our August meeting Bob Orrfelt announced the completion of his long awaited DOCKIT manual. Also known as the EPROM MANUAL FOR THE TS 2068 COMPUTER WITH ROM DISASSEMBLY, this 110 page manual has taken a year to produce. A limited number of copies are now available at Sunset Electronics for \$17.95.

Also available at Sunset Electronics for \$30 is Jay Brockman's QUADRA-PORT. This board connects to the 2068 cartridge port and allows you to select between 4 EPROMS which you buy separately and plug into the board. Instead of slow tape loading waits, you now have instant access to your favorite and most used programs.

I use this system myself and I can highly recommend it. I have a Spectrum ROM, WP32 Wordprocessor and a Backgammon game mounted on mine, but there are a great number more titles to choose from. Contact Sunset or Jay for further details.

Several new programs were added to our S/W library at the last meeting. We now have both 2068 and 1000/1500 versions of the Tape Label program which first appeared in the JULY TIMELINEZ. We have also received a new program from Banta Software called SCREEN-CODE which is a low cost assembler and intended as an introduction to using machine code. This program is available under the share-ware concept. Try it out and if you like it you are requested to make a small payment to Banta.

Well, thats about it for this month except to remind everyone about the PUG WORKSHOP at our Sept. meeting. Rex Lundgren has volunteered to modify anyone's 2068 to improve the LOAD level capabilities of the computer. This modification will increase the load level tolerances by at least 25%. PUG will provide the necessary tools and parts. ALL TIMELINEZ readers are invited to take advantage of this workshop. HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE.

(CONT. ON PAGE 154)

SVSTUG NEWS by Bill Miller

850814_TMLZ_Document

* Thanks to Paul Perreault for contributing a letter from Edward Lockertamp correcting errors in his RS-232 communication and interface for the ZX81 and TS1000 article from Hands-On Electronics (Spring 1985 Issue #4).

850813_TMLZ_Document

* John W. Peterson of the *** South Bay Computer Club *** * Timex/Sinclair User's Group * of Manhattan Beach, CA reports Dave Clifford (of Z-Link fame) has a free BBS running.



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T-S 2068

B:DIR
B: DRAW DOC: DRAW TS: NEWFILE DOC: NEWFILE TS
B: AUTODIAL TS: BLASTER TX: DAY-91 TS: MUNDAY TS
B: PANTRY TS: SUPRCHX TS: SCRIBBLE TS: SENDWARS TS
B: STANWARS TS: STW TS: SUPRCHX TS: USR TS
B: HALLEY TS: SUPRCHX DOC

T-S 1000 & 1500

B:DIR
B: AMORTIZE TS: BANNER TS: BARGRAPH TS: BIZ-AD TS
B: BIZ-AP TS: BIZ-AR TS: BIZ-CR TS: BIZ-GL TS
B: BIZ-IN TS: CALENDAR TS: CON TS: DEC-HEX TS
B: DISASSEY TS: GOLF TS: KEY TS: MATHS TS
B: SAVE-PIX TS: SKETCH-PP TS: COVER TS

* Speaking of Bulletin Boards, you may want to try the multi-user BBS operated by LogOn Unlimited. This board is operating in TEST mode but seems very reliable. There is no Timex/Sinclair Public Domain software on this board yet, but the UP-LOAD & DOWN-LOAD functions have only been working since 850823. If any one can figure out how to upload TS software, we can all share all the Public Domain TS Programs. Call LogOn at:

408 735-7390 (24 HRS)
300/1200 BAUD
No Parity
8 Data Bits
1 Stop Bit

850813_TMLZ_Document

* L.I.S.T.ing_8508P17 says Saguaro Software, PO BOX 1864, Telluride, CO, 81435, 303 728-4937, reports having the AMDEX Sin Dual Disk Drive for \$199.00 and Sin Diskettes for \$10/\$25.

850810_TMLZ_Document

* Rob & Debbie Curry report in The_OL_Report_850801 that they are using a QL and Archive to store their customer list. It looks like they will be able to store about 1000 names per QL microdrive cartridge (File).

850724_TMLZ_Document

* ZX_Word_News_Bulletin_8505/06 has an article by Chuck Fink CATS (Maryland) which reports that the TS2048 printer will not normally work with a TS1000 with 64K RAM. Even after modifying it, LPRINT does not work from the keyboard. The Alphacom 32 printer has none of these disadvantages.

* George Mockridge reports 4 new tapes have been added to the software library.

** TS1000 Cassette Labeling program- Entered by George Mockridge.

** TS2068 Cassette labeling program- Entered by George Mockridge.

** TS1000 BASIC Assembler (Freeware Concept) by Andrew Banta.

** TS2068 A&J Microdrive Tazword, Vu-File & Vu-Calc Patches, AT-ONE, Wafer cataloging program, AT Wafer check, wafer certifying program and 'Headscan' for cataloging Cassettes by Howard Ballinger.

850828 SVSTUG Workshop Meeting Attend. 3

* Bob Kuster got his Gorilla Banana printer to work with his new A&J 2000 Micro Drive Centronics port.

* Welcome to new SVSTUG member Fred Griswold.

850827 SVSTUG Meeting Attend. 17

* Bob Orrfelt demonstrated his PC board which plugs into the TS2068 cartridge slot and holds 16 28 pin EPROMS (switch selectable).

* Terry Greenlee demonstrated enhancements to his RemPoke program.

* Welcome to new SVSTUG member Jim Wheeler.

850827_TMLZ_Document

* Don Barnhard reports in TSS NewsNotes_8505/06 that the Wafadrive will not allow the SAVE DATA command.

SELECTIONS FROM OUR CATALOG

WESTRIDGE 2050 MODEM =>\$110.00
 TS2068
 ROMSWITCH =>\$43.95
 MTERM II =>\$27.95
 MSCRIPT WORDPROCESSOR =>\$22.95
 STOCK PLOT =>\$16.00
 CHECKREC =>\$12.00
 PRO/FILE 2068 =>\$26.95
 ZIP COMPILER =>\$19.95
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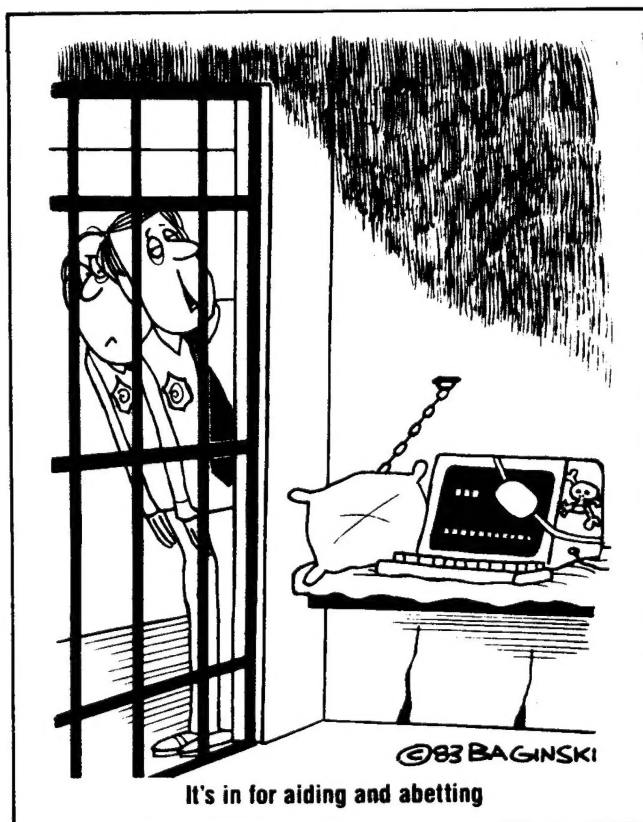
(CONT. FROM PAGE 152)

ated English and turn them into numeric machine code. For example, the instruction to load the A register with a value of 10 hexadecimal would be written in assembly language as LD A,10. The assembler would then convert this instruction into the hexadecimal machine code instruction 3E 10.

The program comes with complete instructions which explain its operation. An additional reference on Z80 assembly language will be required to make full use of the program.

Editor's Note:

Both a tape of the SCREEN-CODE program and of the related instructions are in both of the libraries.



It's in for aiding and abetting

FROM THE AUG. 85 C.A.T.S.
M/L OF BLADESBURG, MD.

TS 1000 Notes:

1. To initialize without pulling the plug, enter RAND USR 0.
2. Program size PEEK 16396 + 256 * PEEK 16397 - 16509.
3. Variables size PEEK 16404 + 256 * PEEK 16405 - PEEK 16400 - 256 * PEEK 16401.
4. Display size PEEK 16400 + 256 * PEEK 16401 - PEEK 16396 - 256 * PEEK 16397.
5. VAL "4E4" uses 8 bytes, 4E4 9 bytes, VAL "40000" 10 bytes, 40000 11 bytes.
6. Both PRINT and LPRINT delete the leading space of a token when used at the beginning of a PRINT, AT, or TAB statement, also when followed by another token.
7. To display the bottom two lines use within a program (line num) POKE 16418,0. Before using SCROLL or INPUT switch off with (line num) POKE 16418,2.
8. To print the bottom two lines enter line 1 REM shift U, shift V, function LN, shift C, graphic shift A, function TAN, then POKE 16517,107. Within the program use (line num) RAND USR 16514, then (line num) COPY.
9. With MC programs stored in 1 REM, POKE 16510,0 to change the REM number to 0, and protect it from accidental deletion.
10. To make a line of MC invisible (certain codes will self destruct when displayed) POKE 16514,118 and 16515,118. Remember the MC now begins at 16516.
11. To make a program run automatically when loaded, save the program with a line statement (usually at the beginning or end of a program), 9010 SAVE "MET" 9020 RUN. Now start the tape recorder and enter 6010 9010. It will run automatically the next time it's loaded.
12. To stop a program from automatically running enter SAVE CHR\$ USR 832 "" to load the program. When the program has finished loading the screen will go gray for three seconds. Press BREAK and you have stopped the program, otherwise it will start running.
13. Do not manipulate memory in slow mode. This means do not: enter, display, or edit basic, or block transfer in MC, it can backfire.
14. To adjust a tape recorder's volume and/or verify if a program is loading properly, simply stop the tape recorder a few seconds after you have begun to load a tape. The computer will either crash or continue searching. A crash means the program was loading correctly until the tape recorder was stopped, a search pattern means there was a problem with title, or low volume.

FROM THE JULY 85 RAMTOP
M/L OF CLEVELAND.

Here we have yet another item from Theo Turk! It is a nice short program that you can add to a 1000/1500 program if you need to renumber your lines!

```

9900 PRINT "FIRST LINE NUMBER?"
9901 INPUT NUM
9902 PRINT "INCREMENT?"
9903 INPUT INC
9904 LET FB=16509
9905 IF (PEEK (FB+1)+256*PEEK FB)>=
    9900 THEN STOP
9906 POKE FB, INT(NUM/256)
9907 POKE FB+1,NUM-256*PEEK FB
9908 LET NUM=NUM+INC
9909 LET FB=FB+PEEK (FB+2)+256*PEEK
    (FB+3)+4
9910 GOTO 9905
You will have to change your GOTOs and
GOSUBs! Put the computer in FAST and
GOTO 9900.
    
```

TASWORD 2 CHANGES
FOR
MULTIPLE COPIES
by Jack L. DeLisle

FROM THE SUMMER
85 Quarter 5 M/L.

I would like to pass along some changes to the TASWORD 2 Word Processing program which make it much more versatile. When using the word processor to design forms or print newsletters, it is very easy to get multiple copies by making a few program modifications.

Stop the program after loading by pressing "symbol shift" and "stop". Exit to basic by pressing "b" and enter.

Change line 240 by adding the following commands immediately before the last statement (GO TO VAL "250"):

```
PRINT AT 14,0;"How many copies?":
INPUT Y:
```

Enter new lines as follows:

```
265 FOR N=1 TO Y
287 NEXT N
```

Next, redefine the graphics commands to give a "form feed". For my Mannesman-Tally, since it does not support elite type, I used graphics character 136 (shifted 7) and followed the instructions on page 20 of the manual. Place the appropriate graphics character for your program after the text is typed in for each page.

Now when entering the print mode the prompts also include "How many copies?". You must enter a quantity and the printer will continue to print until the desired quantity are printed.

COMPUTER CALENDAR

SEPTEMBER

- 5 3rd Personal Computer Faire
to Civic Auditorium and Brooks Hall
7 San Francisco 10 am to 6 pm
One Day Tickets: \$10
- 7 Bay Area Computer Swap
San Mateo County Fairgrounds
San Mateo 10 am to 5 pm
Admission: \$5
- 11 Start of Wednesday TV Series
"The Computer Show"
KSTS (Channel 48) 7 to 8 pm
- 14 Computer Swap America
Santa Clara County Fairgrounds
San Jose 10 am to 6 pm
Admission: \$5
- 13 Home Computing Show
to (by Home Computing Centers)
15 Tanforan Park Shopping Center
San Bruno
Free Admission and Parking
- 15 Peninsula User Group 1:00 pm
- 24 Silicon Valley User Group
Regular Meeting
Cupertino Library 7:00 pm
- 26 East Bay Z80 User Group 7:30 pm
- 26 BYTE Computer Show
to Brooks Hall (Civic Center)
29 San Francisco 10 am to 6 pm
Admission: \$10
- 28 Golden Gate Computer Expo
to Oakland Coliseum
29 Oakland 10 am to 5 pm
Admission: \$5

OCTOBER

- 20 Peninsula User Group 1:00 pm
- 24 East Bay Z80 User Group 7:30 pm
- 29 Silicon Valley User Group
Regular Meeting
Cupertino Library 7:00 pm
- 30 Silicon Valley User Group
Workshop
Great Western Savings
10250 S. De Anza Boulevard
Cupertino 7:00 pm

```

1 REM *****
2 REM THIS PROGRAM MAY ONLY
  BE USED BY THE MEMBERS
  OF EBZUG, PUG, & SVUG!
3 REM *****
4 REM FROM TSUNAMI, AUG 85
5 REM *****
10 FOR Q=1 TO 3
20 LET T=0
30 LET T=T+1: IF T=5 THEN GO TO
  110
40 READ X
50 IF X=-1 THEN GO TO 90
60 PRINT CHR$ X;
70 DATA 136,87,82,73,84,69,32,
  65,78,32,65,82,84,73,67,76,69,32,
  70,79,82,32,84,73,77,69,76,73,7
  8,69,90,133,-1
80 GO TO 40
90 RESTORE
100 PAUSE 25: GO TO 30
110 LET G$=CHR$ 46+CHR$ 46+CHR$
  46+CHR$ 65+CHR$ 78+CHR$ 68+CHR$
  32+CHR$ 68+CHR$ 79+CHR$ 32+CHR$
  73+CHR$ 84+CHR$ 32+CHR$ 78+CHR$
  79+CHR$ 87+CHR$ 33
120 PRINT "TAB 8;G$
130 PRINT : PAUSE 50: NEXT Q
140 PAUSE 50: PRINT "OK???"
  
```

SINCLAIR PORTABLE TO DEBUT (SOON)

Whilst we're on the new products kick, word is that there's a Sinclair ZX Spectrum portable upcoming. Seasoned Newsbyters will remember the ill-fated Timex 2068 colour clone of the Spectrum that saw out 1984 in that great American computer shop institution, the Bargain Bin. Will the new portable make it to the U.S.? Probably, and it may *sell* as well! The machine will be about the size of a Tandy Model 100 portable and feature a 5-inch flat screen mono VDU (as used in the much vaunted Sinclair flat screen TV) which will be angled towards the viewer like the old Sharp MZ series, except that it'll be at the centre back of the machine, just behind a (gasp) full typewriter keyboard. An integral 300/1200 baud acoustic modem will be included, as will communications software held in ROM. The machine will use the ubiquitous microdrive (a floppy tape cartridge system) for storage, although 72K of the 128K RAM will act as a Ramdisc in much the same way as the new Amstrad (see previous story...yawn). Oh and the price of this little marvel? "Around the 300 pound mark" says my source. Great to impress your neighbours with, but what can you DO with it?

Editor's Note:

The above article, published in the August 27 issue of Computer Currents, was written by Steve Gold. Would somebody please tell Mr. Gold what he can DO with it?

E B Z U G EAST BAY Z80 USER GROUP
654 40TH STREET
RICHMOND, CALIFORNIA 94805
(415) 234-3310

PRESIDENT: RICK LINK

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MEETINGS: NO REGULAR TIME OR PLACE FOR MEETINGS.
SEE COMPUTER CALENDAR FOR MEETING INFORMATION
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THE TIMELINEZ NEWSLETTER IS A JOINT PUBLICATION OF THE THREE
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EDITORS NOTE: In the February/ March 1985 issue of Timelinez, there is an article by Howard Ballinger regarding microdrive adaptions of Tasword. His article below includes further debugging and updating.

HOWARD BALLINGER
436 ALBEMARLE
EL CERRITO CALIF. 94530
(415) (H) 444-8891 (H) 527-3447

Dear Bill:

Hi! I was pleased to see my submission in Timelinez regarding microdrive adaptions of Tasword. It had almost been forgotten! But actually, I should have done some further debugging and updating.

Besides adding the lines I LISTED, it turns out you have to DELETE lines 920, 930, 940, 945, and 1050.

Besides, as a hopeless tinkerer I have slicked up "atz" a bunch. So I'm sending along a new version which perhaps could be passed along to any who inquire.

It can't actually be MERGED to the Tasword Basic once it has autostarted, unless you raise RAHTOP back up a ways. (It's a tight program!) But I just did it & it works.

So for the Complete Beginner, I'd suggest loading the whole program from cassette, pressing STOP, b, then ENTER, then typing in the lines from this listing.

I still have it set up to SAVE at 2 and 3, so if Mr. or Ms. Beginner uses a header program like "SCAT" or my "B1", all that needs to be done is insert a microtape in your A & J drive with your header program on location 1, press STOP, t, and ENTER.

If you don't use a header, LIST line 700: find the two SAVE commands in 700 & 710: and change the 2 to a 1 and the 3 to a 2. Then just SAVE it onto a freshly initialized microtape the same way as above.

Also possibly of interest: I am finishing a cassette version of all my Microdrive adaptions: Tasword, VuFile, VuCalc & AT-ONE. A copy will be sent to the EBZUG library and I will keep another, which can be loaned out. They won't include the code, of course, only the Basic; so they are of use only to people who already own the commercial programs.

Inquiries are welcome.

Regards --

Howard

```

2 REM
11 BEEP VAL "1",VAL "16": BEE
P VAL "1",VAL "12": RETURN
15 POKE VAL "23609",VAL "2": C
LEAR VAL "33279": GO SUB VAL "40
00": PRINT AT VAL "1",VAL "0": L
OARD "etasword"CODE: CLS: GO SU
E VAL "11": LET a=USR VAL "59081
": GO TO VAL "10"
300 CLS: BORDER 5: GO SUB VAL
"4000": PRINT "Printer control g
raphics chars:"
400 REM
401 CLS: GO SUB VAL "4000": PR
INT AT VAL "3",VAL "0": "just
to keep values given:"
599 CLS: GO TO VAL "9999"
700 CLS: LET i=VAL "8": GO SUB
VAL "800": LET a$="tasword": SA
VE "atz" LINE VAL "15"
710 SAVE "03,tasword"CODE VAL "
54784",VAL "10751": GO SUB VAL "
900"
780 VERIFY "atz": PRINT AT VAL
"21",VAL "0": "etasword 599: 3.4
": AT VAL "19",VAL "0":
790 VERIFY "etasword" CODE VAL
"54784",VAL "10751": PRINT AT VA
L "21",VAL "20": "etasword 3.4"
GO TO VAL "25"
800 PRINT AT 1,VAL "0": "saving
"atz" & Tasword @ CODE": RETUR
N
900 PRINT AT VAL "12",VAL "5": "
verifying ...": RETURN
920 REM
930 REM
940 REM
945 REM
1030 LET i=VAL "12": CLS: PRINT
" saving "a$: SAVE a$CODE
b:a: CLS
1050 REM
1098 IF a$(1)="0" THEN GO SUB VA
L "900": VERIFY ("0"+ a$(4 TO ))
CODE b:a: GO TO VAL "1110"
2010 PRINT AT VAL "12",VAL "2": "
Just press ENTER to load the"AT
VAL "14",VAL "2": "first file (c
assette only)"
9999 GO SUB 4000

```

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